

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (previously presented) A routing and switching apparatus comprising:
 - a switching fabric;
 - a matrix of switching elements and routing elements, at least one of said switching elements being connected to at least one of said routing elements by said switching fabric; and
 - router control providing control for said switching fabric,wherein said apparatus has both cross-connect functionality and routing functionality.
2. (original) The apparatus as claimed in claim 1 wherein said apparatus can support GMPLS.
3. (original) The apparatus as claimed in claim 1 wherein said apparatus further comprises an IP-based layer-3 virtual router.
4. (original) The apparatus as claimed in claim 2 wherein said apparatus can provide layer-3 VPN services.
5. (original) The apparatus as claimed in claim 2 wherein said apparatus can perform layer-3 forwarding via a network processor.

6. (original) The apparatus as claimed in claim 4 wherein said apparatus can exist both physically and virtually with in a particular network.

7. (original) The apparatus as claimed in claim 4 further comprising a router capable of forwarding packets according to a label switching algorithm.

8-20 (cancelled)